

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUANDA 00483 211218Z

53

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI PFOR AO PO

SUBJECT: SOARES SAYS PORTUGAL HAS BEEN USING ARMS SUPPLIED BY
NATO COUNTRIES IN AFRICA

1. TODAY'S PRESS REPORTS PORTUGAL' NEW FONMIN MARIO SOARES IN
INTERVIEW WITH LE MONDE OF PARIS HAS ADMITTED PORTUGAL HAS BEEN
USING ARMS PROVIDED BY SEVERAL NATO COUNTRIES AGAINST AFRICAN
GUERRILLAS. "LISBON GOVERNMENT IGNORED LAWS" AGAINST THIS,
HE IS QUOTED AS SAYING.

2. SOARES GOES ON TO SAY PORTUGAL REMAINS FAITHFUL TO ATLANTIC
ALLIANCE, BUT NATO "SHOULD AIM AT DEFENSE OF DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN
RIGHTS."

3. COMMENT: SOARES STATEMENT, IF ACCURATELY REPORTED, COULD WELL BE
TAKEN AS CONCLUSIVE "PROOF" THAT NATO (NOT JUST INDIVIDUAL
MEMBERS) HAS BEEN SUPPORTING PORTUGUESE COLONIALISM ALL ALONG.
PRESS DOES NOT INDICATE WHICH NATO COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN SUPPLYING
ARMS.

BRIGGS

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PAGE 02 LUANDA 00483 211218Z

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